

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

Network Newsletter

February 2007



MISSION STATEMENT

ABCN is a network of anarchist prison abolitionists. Autonomous ABC groups support prisoners, both social and political, as well as our comrades in resistance. Our intent is to resist, inside and out, global systems of repression. Through solidarity work with other groups and the ongoing work to help serve the needs of our locked up brothers and sisters, we seek to overcome fear, ignorance and apathy. Only then can people become empowered and contribute their talents to the struggle. It's not about charity, but rather genuine mutual aid.

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) groups see prisons as the cornerstone of state control, and work towards the abolition of the prison system.

SOUTH CHICAGO ABC
ZINE DISTRO
POB 721 HOMERWOOD IL 60430

SEDFORD PARK IL 604

29 JAN 2007 PM 5 T



6604436998



Friends of ABCN

ABC Manchester

PO Box 326
Sale
Manchester
M33 4YQ UK

Anarchist Black Cross Federation

While the ABCF and the ABCN are separate and differently organized groups, we share a lot of the same goals and ideas and support each other's respective work.

Jacksonville ABCF

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jax@abcf.net

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kickittillitbreaks@hotmail.com

Anarchist People of Color/APOC

c/o Ernesto Aguilar

PO Box 667233

Houston, TX 77266-7233

ernestomedia@yahoo.com

http://www.illegalvoices.org/

George Jackson University

Dr. Donald R. Evans, Sr.
1000 West Century Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90044

Jericho Movement - Boston

PO Box 301057
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
http://www.jerichoboston.org/
jericho_boston@yahoo.com

Books for Prisoners Crew

Serving prisoners in Ohio, Indiana, and 3 prisons in Texas — Ramsey I, Polunsky, & Women's Gatesville

c/o Hobo Bookstore, & Monkey's Retreat
Bookstore,
PO Box 19065
Cincinnati, OH 45219
b4pcrew@hotmail.com

Midwest Books to Prisoners

c/o Quimby's Bookstore
PMB #460
1573 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60622-2029
mwbtpr@riseup.net
http://www.freewebs.com/mwbtpr/

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Edited by Anthony Rayson of South Chicago ABC
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those prisoners are exiled out-of-state. Sewage waste from Calif. Prisons is overflowing into farmland & seeping into ground water, contaminating crops & drinking water. Calif. Prisons use so much electricity that prisons blackouts from blown fuses occur every day, creating a hazardous environment for everyone.

Another interesting development in this Calif. Prison emergency, is mass parole resistance (absconding.) Conditions are so bad in prison & recidivism numbers so high, many prisoners run from the gate upon release. (I've run from the gate 6 times now...and counting!) Calif. Police are now spending more time hunting down absconders than they are arresting new ones! It's fucking madness!

However, even though there's no bed space in prison for the thousands of absconders evading & resisting capture (many with firearms) police continue to sweep the streets en masse!

I'm starting a pamphlet / zine collective library with Rayford A. White here on D-8 for the purpose of education.

Report from the Indiana ABC Correspondent

By, David S.

The facility here is called Correctional Industrial Facility or C.I.F.! PEN Products at Westville Correctional Facility. There are 3 private corporations that operate within. These are PEN Products (Prison Enterprise Network), Aromark and the "health care" provider. PEN's warehouse is huge and processes fruits, vegetables, meats, juices, milk and breads. They operate the statewide prison commissary system. They charge hyper inflated prices, equivalent to a convenience store, but pay the prison laborers only \$.35 / hour to produce the food, which they buy at bulk-rate prices.

At Westville Correctional Facility, PEN produces prison khakis, boxers and shirts. They also make hickory furniture and decoy ducks (paint them). A private company at Miami Correctional Facility in Miami, Co. Indiana, produces wiring harnesses for an RV manufacturer in Elkhart, IN.

Aromark is our food service provider. The menu is a repetitive four-week rollover menu. We are starved to death with potatoes and pasta with every meal and low-grade small portions of turkey by-products. Between the effects of trypsin and the simple carbs and the meager calories, energy is a sought after commodity! They feed you enough to keep you alive and then you are always hungry so you're practically forced to ask your family for money - to buy prisoner-produced commissary products from PEN Products. Sounds like a conspiracy to me!

We must now receive all nudity through the corporate media.

Ohio Penal Industries, a subsidiary of ODRC, continues to rake in record profits by contracting prisoner sweatshop labor to multi-national corporations, making the prison slave system sustainable at the expense of robbing free-world Ohioan of otherwise union-scale jobs.

Here in Toledo, administrators have created an untenable mess with visiting policies, permitting only 23 visitors per visiting period. Visitors traveling as far as 119 miles can be turned away if they are twenty-fourth in line for the morning. This has resulted in visitor stampedes reminiscent of the carnival-seating fiasco that crushed nine kids to death at a Who concert in the 1980's. Our family must wear their track shoes to have any chance of seeing us.

Finally, two white staff members working in the hole punished a young Black prisoner named Lavar Butler, when he protested a perceived injustice and refused to close the food slot of his cell door. They broke his arm.

Welcome to the plantation of the 21st Century.

MCI Worldcom: (601) - 460 - 5600

Access Securepak (vendor monopoly): 1 - 800 - 546 - 6283

Ohio DRC Central Office: (614) - 752 - 1159

Ohio Inspector General: 1 - 800 - 686 - 1525

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland (D): (614) - 466 - 3555

ABCN Prisoner / Correspondence Report HDSP / California

Respect & Solidarity to the Brothers & Sisters in Minimum Security! Things have been hectic here at HDSP. In Mid-November, 15 prisoners jumped 2 pigs, kicking off a prison-wide riot. The prison is on lockdown status.

The Feds are overseeing the mental health / medical clinic (CTC) because the prison stonewalled a superior court order to improve medical conditions. CTC is literally a torture clinic. I've been there for "treatment" and witnessed medieval atrocities involving
1) 5 point leather restraint 2) use of psychoactive drugs as a punitive measure 3) neglect 4) death
5) beatings 6) exposure to extreme cold.

Litigation never works because Cowboy Prison Administrators stonewall court orders! Anarchist Brother (Rayford A. White #B05128) is serving a long sentence & has asked me if I know any anarchists who will write to him??? He's on solitary with me here on D-8, shoot him a kite!

Lots of prisoners from reception have been loaded onto corporate planes & transferred to "GEO Corp" & "Corrections Corporation, USA." These corporate prisons have contracts for 15,000 Calif. Prisoners.

Out of 170,000 prisoners in 35 prisons, 15,000 prisoners are sleeping on floors, hallways & in overcrowded gyms. Now,

Chicago Books to Women in Prison

Serving women prisoners in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Mississippi & Florida.

c/o Beyond Media Education
7013 N. Glenwood Ave.

Chicago, IL 60626

<http://www.chicagobwp.org/>
chicagobwp@hotmail.com

FedUp! (contact Etta)

5125 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
(412) 802-8575
fedup@riseup.net

Prison Book Program (Boston)

c/o Lucy Parsons Bookstore
1306 Hancock Street, Suite 100
Quincy, MA 02169
617-423-3298 (no collect calls)
<http://www.prisonbookprogram.org/>
info@prisonbookprogram.org

Battle Cry of Innocence

PO Box 672
Jasper, IN 47547

Human Action Community Org

6028 S. Halsted Street
Harvey, IL 60426

No Death Penalty for Zoio

PO Box 478314.
Chicago, IL 60647

HRC Newsletter (USA)

PO Box 87193
Gaithersburg, MD 20886
h_shakur77@yahoo.com
hasanalshakur@yahoo.com

The purpose of the open membership list is to provide a healthy conduit for discussion, dissemination of vital

information & news, building unity in the radical anti-authoritarian communities, a space for those supportive of, and actively involved in prison work and anti-prison movements and struggles. Campaigns, not necessarily concerned with prisoners (eg. anti-poverty, feminist, Third World/Indigenous/People of Color, etc.) are welcome to join the list. Please subscribe and post wisely.

To join, visit <http://www.anarchistblackcross.org/>

HRC Newsletter (Norway)

c/o Knut Erik Paulli
Morkved
N-8020 Bodoe
Norway
hrcnxtas@hotmail.com

Prison Poster Project

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Pittsburgh, PA 15213
<http://www.prisonposterproject.com/>

MPLU-support

Leemstraat 29
2600 Berchem
Belgium
www.mplu-support.tk
info@mplu-support.tk

Prisoner's Action Coalition

PO Box 151
Fennimore, WI 53809

Red Heart Warrior Society

PO Box 4362
Allentown, PA 18105

Tarantula Distribution

818 SW 3rd Ave
PM8 #1237
Portland, OR 97204

Voices for Creative Nonviolence

(formerly Voices in the Wilderness)
1249 W Argyle Street #2
Chicago, IL 60640
(773) 878-3815
<http://www.vcnv.org/>
info@vcnv.org

ABC Friends List

Affiliating with the ABCN

A group does not have to call itself "ABC" to be affiliated with the ABC Network, nor is there a minimum number of member required to form an ABC group. Groups of any size and with any name can affiliate with the ABCN as long as they meet the guidelines of the Network:

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- Agree with and abide by the ABCN Mission Statement
- Have a post office box or other mailing address (Post office boxes are better, for the safety and comfort of everyone in your ABC group).
- Provide members of the ABCN with the contact phone number of at least one member of your group (extreme care will be taken with contact information, and they will only be used for internal communication within the network).
- Have at least one member of your group on the ABCN email list.
- Contribute a group update to each quarterly ABCN Newsletter. (Submissions should be less than 500 words with complete end up-to-date contact info and should contain info on what the functions of the chapters are and a report on what the group/individual has worked on recently.)
- Commit to sending at least one member of your group to annual ABCN meetings.
- If an ABC group dissolves or relocates, it is expected to notify the Network and involved prisoners and write a statement for the ABCN newsletter.

At the 2006 national gathering, we decided that new groups would be considered "provisional," and would not have their address listed in the newsletter until they've submitted two consecutive quarterly updates, or submitted one update and attended the gathering. Affiliated groups that miss two updates, or an update and a gathering, will have the same provisional status until they have met these same requirements. Provisional groups be offered assistance from a regional mentor ABC.

Decision-Making

If a Network decision needs to be made, a proposal should be made on the ABCN email list. The proposal should be clearly marked with PROPOSAL in the subject line, with a deadline set for two weeks after the proposal is sent. If there are no disapprovals or requests for extension by the deadline, the proposal is approved. A proposal must clearly explain what support entails.

ABC Network of the U.S.

Recognizing that there are ABC chapters all over the world, we acknowledge our present network is one of chapters within the U.S., and that we must be clear that decisions made at gatherings, on the list, etc. reflect those of the affiliated network members within the U.S.

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lot of good materials, empowering to prisoners. Education is my main focus right now. I do need help with copying.

I need a copy of "Chapter 1" from the book, Ten Men Dead, by David Beresford. This is very important literature for prisoners.

For those who would like to learn more of my situation and the struggle we face out here in Nevada, write to So. Chi ABC Zine Distro. Ask for Coyote Calling. Or write me directly.

I may be locked up and confined to a world of obscurity, but I still have a bright outlook on life. I'm still young and it feels great to be involved in the struggle! We all have our role to play and I'm out to prove that a prisoner can do just as much work as someone on the outside! Love and respect!

Just remember: I'm here for you, whoever needs me! In truth and towards anarchy,

Coyote Sheff #55671

P.O. Box 1989

Ely, Nevada 89301-1989

Coyote

ABC - Nevada

Prison - Chapter

FROM THE OHIO SLAVE COMPLEX

By Sean Swain

Bringing in the New Year, Ohio prisoners continue to receive the same pay rate for slave labor, averaging about \$19 per month. The last change in pay was 1983 - a pay cut! Prisoners must use this funding to purchase necessities such as soap, toothpaste and co-pay for medical care. Food portions have been reduced, so prisoners must purchase food from the commissary or go hungry.

The Department of Retribution and Corruption has changed policy and the many vendors are now just one company. Prices have risen dramatically. A typewriter with on-line memory used to cost \$134. Now, an inferior one costs \$250, with no memory.

Welcome to the company store. MCI-Worldcom has installed a statewide phone system that gouges prisoner families. From Toledo to Detroit is a dollar a minute. Calls are limited to "approved" numbers, preventing us from contacting the media or government agencies outside the ODRC.

le photos have been outlawed on the grounds that pictures of naked people constitute a "threat to security." A multi-billion dollar slave system with all the latest technology and psychological warfare tactics feels "threatened" by photos of nude butts. Subsequently, even married prisoners can no longer possess nude photos of their spouses.

will continue.

She piped valuable information into prisons, info that affected prisoners in a big way. There may never be another advocate who reaches out to prisoners and their loved ones the way Anne did - she is truly a hard act to follow.

The memory of the soft-spoken woman whose fighting spirit can never die, will live on in the struggles of every activist who squares against an oppressor, especially the one who stands alone, like every prisoner - not only against the odds, but in spite of them.

The members of WABC are proud to have stood in solidarity with Anne Rose-Pierce, and we will continue her investigations into prison corruption in addition to our own agenda of exposing confidential informants.

Solidarity in the shadow of the giant,

The Women's Anarchist Black Cross
441 SE 37th Ave / Portland, OR 97214
<http://wabc.mahost.org> / wabc@mutualaid.org

"Report"

"ABC-Nevada", would you believe that?! Well, it's as true as the sky is blue! Thanks to the inspiration of Anthony Rayson and the wonderful support and dedication from Abe from Burning River (E. Cleveland) ABC, I have been able to get a prison chapter started out west.

Some of you might wonder what I can do from a maximum security prison cell. A lot can be done, inside and out, if our hearts are in the right place and we remain focused and dedicated to our tasks.

I'm especially concerned for the prisoners here in Nevada. We endure and are prepared for more hardship as we voice ABC truths. We seek to enthuse others who will recognize the devotion and dedication of ABC and would like to get involved and take up the cause.

Before there wasn't any activism in Nevada, but now many prisoners are becoming more conscious of the issues and struggles of prisoners and poor people throughout the world. I see good things on the way!

If there's anything I can do to help, be it write something or otherwise contribute, please holler at me! Like Ryan of Houston said, we need each other!

I'm starting a zine distro from my cell. I have a

ABC Network Groups

ABC Legal Services
Twitch-Entropy
2900 La Fayette Ave. #2
Austin, TX 78722
twitchon@hotmail.com

Boston ABC
P. O. Box 230182
Boston, MA 02123-0182
bostonabc@riseup.net

Burning River ABC
P.O. Box 602543
Cleveland, OH 44102

Houston ABC
P.O. Box 667614
Houston, TX 77266-7614
houstonabc@riseup.net

Kansas Mutual Aid
P. O. Box 442438
Lawrence, KS 66044
kansasmutualaid@hotmail.com
<http://www.alliedresistance.org/kma> ryan_aben@yahoo.com

Morgantown ABC
P.O. Box 43
Morgantown, WV 26507
ten89@yahoo.com

Women's ABC
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Lawrence, KS 66044
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Cleveland, OH 44102
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wabc@mutualaid.org
<http://wabc.mahost.org>

ABC Para-Legal Services Reportback

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At present, ABC Para-Legal Services, which doubles as the Central Coordinators for the "Committee to Free Alvaro Luna Hernandez" campaign, is aiding Texas Political Prisoner Hernandez, in another round of his appeal on the parental custody case involving his 9 year old son, Alvaro III, that is moving from the 8th Court of Appeals, El Paso, to the Texas Supreme Court, here in Austin, Texas this month; he is petitioning for review of the lower court's denial of his appeal to the state's high court.

And in cooperation with Reverend Kobutusu Malone of the Engaged Zen Buddhist Foundation, we continue to monitor the sequels of violent racist staff's sexual attacks, cruel beatings, and psychological abuses of prisoners at the B.B. "Sixty" Rayburn Correctional Center, in Angie, Louisiana, intervening as best we can by attempting to get clergy and state officials to visit and investigate. And then making sure to let the administrations know they are being observed and getting reports of abuse out.

ABC Para-Legal Services has been working with California prisoner Bakri Bilal Abdal Mu Min (Arthur Lee Henderson s/n) at CSP Lancaster, assisting him with technical material for his appeal and enlisting his knowledge of law to initiate a running dialogue with prisoners on such topics as the "Three Strikes" laws in the "first person" tract format. I hope that this can evolve and become instructional. "Three Strikes" Laws and punishment enhancements are chief obstacles in prisoner litigation.

And, ABCPLS still is working with MPU prisoner Roque T. Aranda on his parole legal wrangling with the state. Roque got into a serious and possibly life-threatening altercation with his crazed violent cellie at the McConnell Unit, who broke his hand in the cell door as he was attempting to escape the attack; and has been transferred to the Clements Unit in Amarillo. The upshot is he's lost some goodtime now because they are saying he started it; he's even been wondering if all this was put up as a result of his suits pending with TDCJ and the state courts.

And, MPU Texas Branch Coordinator (Shariyl) Sidney Williams, was hastily removed from the Montfort Unit in Lubbock, Texas and returned to the John B. Connally Unit in Kennedy, TX we believe as a result of some Black Panther literature that got the attention of an over-zealous STG storm trooper; he is in a relatively calm and safe section at Connally this time around. ABCPLS is continuing to locate an academic institution's library in the state willing to help him with the safekeeping of his religious books; that will afford him access to them easier.

And, I guess lastly, in coordination with Monkeywrench Books, the Angola 3 Coalition (Austin, Texas Branch) ABC Para-Legal Services helped with the organization of the Green Scare Day of Solidarity Benefit event at MWB December 7th, where hundreds of dollars were raised for Rod Coronado's defense fund and commissary needs. And, to caveat that, we are supporting, in cooperation with these same anarchist community groups and our eastside neighbors, the Treasure Chest Thrift Store community-run clothing, household items, and literature outlet; to allow activists groups involved in the project the funds from sales to sustain them in their work.

Twitch - Entropy

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people would (and did) discard. When Anne said that there was good in everybody, and that there is no such thing as a worthless person, she meant it. She lived by her own words, and proved that she was no hypocrite.

Her life with Greg was short-lived, but she lovingly remembered it as some of the best times of her life. Greg had AIDS and his frequent jail and prison accommodations cut sorely into their time together, but she remained supportive of her man, for better or for worse. It was the worst of these times that forged her dedication to the advocacy for the rights of prisoners.

Her last hours with Greg were a prison bureaucratic nightmare. She squared off with a prison industrial complex that refused to allow her to be with the love of her life at the time of his death, and Anne was not going to take "no" for an answer. When the battle was over and the dust cleared, Anne was at her man's side until the end. Anne never really said goodbye to Greg and she never forgot the inhumane treatment that he as an inmate and she as his family, received from the prison officials.

It was as a result of her experiences that she made a solemn vow to do everything within her power to see that no one else ever had to suffer the way she and Greg did. She created "After Seventeen Years..." a prisoner support group, and again she squared off with the prison industrial complex. But this time, she was not alone. She soon rallied plenty of support against several injustices, one of which was the DOC's proposed "video visiting" where inmates would no longer see their loved ones except on a TV monitor. It was this victory over the "Dept. of Corruption" that Anne made herself known as a worthy adversary of the creators of such draconian policies.

Anne's untimely death and the strange and sudden "phantom illness" that struck her down, just before Christmas 2005, shook our community and for many of us at WABC, we suddenly lost a long-time friend and co-worker, and a respected member of our family. Anne was rock solid and heavily trusted within our circle. There was no identifiable cause found for her symptoms, so it was marked off as "natural cause." Some of us are not convinced. The general consensus was that she was somehow poisoned with something undetectable in common medical screenings.

But we'll never know what took our comrade from us.

The unfinished projects and her radio program "Prison Pipeline" on KBOO, even though divided several ways, still prove to be daunting, to say the least. But the life's work of Anne Rose-Pierce

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finished their report, which the judge will consider as "fact." I had earlier put other pressure on the head of the state police, through other channels. Basically, they refused to believe our very credible witness's account and came up with an implausible scenario which legally minimizes the culpability of the off-duty cop, who so callously murdered Dylan. They presented a piece of paper, "certifying" Dorian was drug-free that night, which I highly doubt. They did feel compelled to conclude that Donan was traveling between 83 and 100 mph when he broadsided Dylan. According to them, he took a hard evasive left (directly into Dylan and oncoming traffic) and wasn't turning. (at sixty mph) as the witness described. This "official analysis" by these state cops, retains the legal "right of way" for the cop who blasted into Dylan, broadside, in the middle of an intersection... This scenario "legally" minimizes his responsibility for causing Dylan's death. It's a rigged game they play, along with their "testifying." This is the classic cops covering for the crimes of cops. They also know we will not be intimidated, nor settle for anything less than the absolute truth and will not shy away from detailing it. We don't expect "justice" from the cops or the courts, but rather a full effort and explication for Dylan's sake -- on our part! Everyone will know what the real truth is and was that night. Rest-in-peace, wonderful Dylan!

Against The Odds The Life of Anne Rose-Pierce From the Women's Anarchist Black Cross

Anne Rose-Pierce was a gentle, soft spoken woman. She never accepted evasive answers and she definitely would not back down when she knew she was right. Her naturally diplomatic demeanor and ability to dominate a debate, complemented her sensitivity to the pain and suffering of others and made her a force to be reckoned with as an advocate for those who were unable to defend themselves. Though her natural abilities were a perfect fit, she never even considered the possibility that one day she would become one of the most effective prisoner's rights activists and one person, prison officials, dreaded hearing from.

Never having been on the wrong side of the law herself, Anne had never seen the side of Law Enforcement and Corrections that anyone who has been in "the system" has seen. It wasn't until she met the one true love in her life, Greg Pierce, that the brutal realities of our justice system changed her views about what "justice" means, and proved to her that justice was not for all -- and definitely not for her beloved Greg.

Greg was your average non-violent drug addict, whose relentless quest to get high, ruled his life every day. He and Anne were truly the "odd couple." But that did not affect the natural tendency for Anne to see past the external blight and fall in love with a man most

Boston ABC Report

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Since our last writing, ABC Boston has attained a previously unheard of goal: we have caught up with all of our literature requests! A modest fundraising campaign saw modest success, including some support from local academia. Know Your Rights trainings for student organizations is another avenue of activity, which also presents untapped fundraising opportunities. Members of ABC Boston were involved in or provided legal observation for an Oaxaca Solidarity demonstration and a march in defense of low income housing. ABC Boston is also connected with *Through Barbed Wire*, which counsels at-risk youth, organizes and contributes to community forums and events.

Apart from undertaking to mentor ABC Lawrence/Lowell, we're currently preparing for the Northeast Anarchist Consulta in February and a massive Week of Resistance in May. May's resistance will consist not only of support for migrant workers' rights, but will be demonstrating against the Biotech Convention, which will be in town 6-9 May. Consider yourselves invited! In other local news, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority conferred upon itself the right to do 'random' bag searches in October. The National Lawyers Guild and American Civil Liberties Union have led the opposition to this emetic policy, which is finally being challenged by the Massachusetts state legislature.

Burning River ABC

Burning River ABC just got off the ground about a month ago in the Northeast Ohio area of East Cleveland. Anthony R. from the South Chicago ABC is our mentor and we appreciate all his help, advice and camaraderie. There are not many of us but we have desire and sincerity. This will get us far, no doubt. Lately, we've worked on answering letters from prisoners and sending out zines. We are also helping to sponsor the new Nevada ABC Prison Chapter. We are working with DRIVE to assist the death row inmates on the Polunsky Unit in Texas.

One of our members co-hosts an indie media radio show every week on a college radio station. She has a regular segment called the "ABC Review" in which she plays a radio essay by Mumia Abu Jamal and then discusses prison issues, tell prison-related stories and occasionally, conducts an interview.

We want to maintain the contacts we have and add to them, with a special emphasis on women prisoners and their unique issues. They are way too overlooked. We encourage women prisoners to contact us and tell us your story. Let us send you good reading material and be your friend on the outside.

We also want to begin tabling events and on educational work with the general public through writings, workshops and general interaction.

Another project we are involved in is the Cleveland Books 2 Prisoners. This is a city-wide anarchist collaboration. We can only handle supplying Ohio prisoners at this time.

We put together our first zine recently and hope to assemble more zines for distro. We send a call out to all prisoners to send us any writings &/or artwork of any kind. Come get recognized and join the struggle!

Moving forward.....Burning River ABC

Chicago ABC Report

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Hi, again! As 2007 began, Chicago ABC got down to business making some goals and new year's resolutions for our chapter. The past year was good for us, considering our small collective. For the next year, we have outlined specific changes we'd like to see. We will prioritize our work, cut back on some projects and focus on those with more direct effect. We are looking to increase our membership to help us handle the heavy volume of work. We are looking for a permanent space, collaborating more with Midwest Books to prisoners, increasing our outreach, doing more fundraising and really nurturing our distro.

These days, we are getting tons of literature requests. We're adding more titles and looking to get them in other languages - Spanish, French & Swahili. We've curtailed our monthly film nights to focus on direct prisoner support more. We've also suspended the bail fund. Our funds are being poured into the distribution and publishing of free literature for prisoners.

We're still offering our support to the local community in the form of Know Your Rights workshops. We started a *Postcards to Prisoners* project, which combines art and prisoner support in a way that increases the involvement of children and others in the community to join the prison abolition movement. We're also continuing to collaborate with the Midwest Campaign to Abolish Control Units, by being on the emergency response network, among other things. Hope everyone else is doing well! Solidarity!

Chicago ABCN

Cleveland and ABC Report

In November 2006, South Chicago's Anthony Rayson visited Northeast Ohio on a speaking tour we arranged. He spoke at Oberlin College, Hiram College, Kent State University (Anti-Racist Action Meeting) and C-Space Community Center.

~~C-Space~~ C-Space is up, not C-Space was the sponsor and host of a Green Scare Benefit for Rod Coronado and ALF Representative, Kevin Tucker.

The orientation process continued into December. Anthony also was interviewed at Indy Media of Cleveland (IMC.) Three members have resigned to start another ABC chapter across town. Anthony also did a zinemaking workshop and spread many zines around. He sat in on a meeting trying to hash out disagreements within the collective, but didn't vote, being an outside mentor.

We will be busy tabling in February, as it is Black History Month. We are looking for relevant DVD's about Black revolutionaries, Puerto Rican POW's, any anti-death penalty material and prisoner rights in general. We will continue to work closely with C-Space as 2 core members of Cleveland ABCN are also core members of C-Space. I am on the advisory collective at C-Space as well as sharing resources.

Chicago. He was on the Chicago network news at the vigil of the 3,000th American victim of U.S. aggression in Iraq. He's very helpful with the zine work, buys supplies and offers genuine anarchist friendship, which allows for a lot more positive work!

He's also got a new girlfriend, and I wish them joy and comfort! She's anti-war, too! A few of the newer zines made available are *The Anarchist Red Cross*, an account of the first fifty years of ABC. Boris Yelensky, who wrote it, was a Russian anarchist, exiled to Chicago! I did an interesting zine with the brilliant Talib Y. Rasheed, in which we interviewed each other. It's called *Each One, Teach One*. I did a 2007 South Chicago ABC Zine Distro Catalog, which lists about 200 zines available. I just added one, after the catalog - an awesome Anarcha-feminist zine! Hundreds of all kinds of zines were sent out - mostly into the American gulags, for extremely grateful prisoners, if they got them, which they still usually did. A stack was sent overseas to be spread around the North Sea Isles.

We continue to supply info shops, other distros, store fronts, activists, other support organizations, people we meet on the street or at events, and whoever else wants them or may review them, etc. Mostly, we focus on direct involvement with the well-being and education / collaboration of and with prisoners. Several ongoing writing collaborations are in the works, as are other types of support for individuals or groups of prisoners. We sent \$250 to match that of the Cincinnati Books4Prisoners Crew, to combine to send \$500 to Khalilani Khalidun's campaign against his tormentors in the dungeons of Indiana. He and his comrades went on hunger strike in August over the horrible conditions they refused to accept without struggle. We're always looking to connect prisoners and the resources they need and / or the politically truthful, empowering zines, which they crave. Anarchist truth, boldly proclaimed and backed up, is a sure means of overcoming fear, lethargy, self-doubt and cynicism. That, of course, is why it is so heavily and increasingly banned by the authorities. They do not want their slaves to become psychologically liberated with the powerful insights, often courageously provided to them, by other slaves! They want their slaves self-hating and hopeless. We don't! Prisoners need us just as we need them!

During an early December snowstorm, IDOT sent two massive bulldozers across a farmer's field in the Peotone Airport "footprint" without warning, one morning. The farmer went out there with a shotgun and stood his ground. They came to destroy a couple houses and a barn, which they could only reach by traversing his land. This was a cowardly escalation by the state, ignoring agreements, trampling their own damn laws and they destroyed a few other homes as well, in the ensuing days. They were called out by STAND.

Next, Jesse Jackson Junior's group ALNAC, proposed a reconfigured runway layout, because an already existing private airport, which is undergoing massive expansion, messed up their plans. IDOT held a public hearing about the competing airport plans - Jackson's & Will County's. They had 18 State Police ringing the inside of the county high school gym in Beecher, armed and fully uniformed, where this event took place. Ninety percent of those there, were against *both* stupid plans, as they lived there, knew the issues, were organized, etc. The only people for either plan were the tired-assed politicians and the careerists making money from the airport's endless, taxpayer-financed, promotion. I spoke to rousing applause, as did several other citizens. Jackson's new plan calls for a main runway directly between the towns of Beecher and Peotone, oblivious to the welfare of the human beings, many of whom are children, who live directly under these ultra centers of unchecked pollution. We await further developments, but everyone knows that the citizens of this area will not be intimidated by the police or their dreary, gutless politicians.

I wrote a 100 day update on the death of Dylan Drapreau, calling out the Crete Police Chief for lying about there not being a witness, and other aspects of the ongoing cover-up. I detailed the whole grim abomination in a strong and concentrated manner. We spread them all around town, mailed them to the media, etc. Ken Drapreau (Dylan's father) and I met with the state police accident reconstructionists, on December 22nd. They had finally

Morgantown ABC Report

Greetings and salutations,

ABCN Morgantown is still a 1 person operation at this point. However, an acquaintance has expressed interest in joining this endeavor. This would be great since I will be moving operations to one of 5 places (Columbus, Chapel Hill, Philly, Richmond or Johnson Coty) in about 6 months. It sure would be nice to have someone take over the reigns here in Morgantown. Everyone cross your fingers.

Now that logistics are out of the way, perhaps we should get into other particulars. For one, there is a benefit show for anarchist prisoner Cassidy Wheeler on February 23rd. I will post more on that event once every detail is met out. I have decided to brave the mostly terrible music and make ABCN more of a presence at local all-ages punk rock shows. I did make \$7 at the last show (a record high for our largely apathetic little college town), which will go to buying envelopes and paper. I have started an ABCN myspace page. It's nothing fancy, but I hope to soon get some prisoner essays up on the blog section. Anyone with a myspace page can just search for us under ABCN Morgantown.

ABCN Morgantown / P.O. Box 43 / Morgantown, WV 26507

South Chicago ABC' Report / Winter 06-07

Four main activities were pursued. These included speaking at events, participating in meetings and going to demonstrations. Next, we spent much time focusing on serious prisoner support work, crafting, printing and distributing zines, transcribing handwritten material, letter writing, calling, etc. Plus, we participated in activities relating to the airport struggle out here as well as dealt with all aspects of the tragic Dylan Drapeau killing.

I spoke at the October 22nd Rally at Cook County Jail. I passed out many booklets on Dylan's death by cop and spoke at length about it. I was very cold, but our hearts were warm with comradely love & respect for the families and friends of police murder victims. A free school conference is being organized for June. It will take place at an alternative high school in Chicago. South Chicago ABC put in the first application to do a presentation, hopefully a paid-for one! This conference, interestingly, is being organized out of New York! We're informing other local anarchists and otherwise serious Chicagoan activists to become involved in this, including a new collaborator out of Elgin, who does excellent documentary films. This is a country-wide alternative edu convergence!

Another conference, being organized by Chicagoan anarchists (and friends) had its first meeting, on December 29th. Twenty serious organizers began the process of actualizing this event, set to take place for two or three days before May Day. Ostensibly, the focus is on anarchist theory, but this gathering has wide interests represented and will develop as those involved want and are willing to assist with. There will be an ABC workshop, tabling, etc. I want to see the Haymarket "Chicago Idea" explained, as well.

Mike has been diligent in his antiwar work and goes to demos in two different places in Indiana, (Crown Point and Merrillville) and to the south side (95th street) and downtown

Cleveland ABCN core members are:

Josh Soybottom jbs-cwru.edu
Umma jacyk11bbccy@hotmail.com
Mark robertsmith532@hotmail.com

Colonizer, my enemy! I will confront and challenge you. I will neither accept nor conform to your lies. I know who I am. I am dk.goodleaf. Let's leave these caveat trappings, which are a distortion of the essence! Humbly submitted,

Cleveland ABCN

clevelandabc@clevelandfoodnotbombs.org

Cleveland ABC works on organizing a strong anarchist network in the Northeast Ohio area, developing support relationships with prisoners, doing educational programming around anarchism, prisons and state repression, and supporting the new Cleveland Books 2 Prisoners group. We have an open reading discussion once a month.

Houston ABC Report

We've continued our work of mailing literature to captives, filling the continuous requests for *Captive Voices*, issuing our weekly email alerts and corresponding with various captives. We are also continuing with our bi-weekly film series at the local infoshop, Sedition Books, as part of our continued efforts to outreach to the local community.

On a more exciting note, one of our new collective members (Susie) organized a hugely successful benefit show for Daniel McGowan, raising almost \$700 last week. Our collective has also just been joined by Ashley, who previously worked with the Texas Death penalty Abolition Movement. Their presence is in perfect time to help offset the absence of Patrick, who has temporarily defected to Liberty ABC, but will return in the Fall. We are also delighted by the prospect of a soon-to-be-member, Kevin Glover. Kevin was recently released from captivity and was a former co-editor of *Chain Reaction*, a radical anti-authoritarian prisoner publication.

We will be distributing *Captive Voices* #15 in late February / early March. For the first time in the history of its publication, we are now forced to request a subscription fee from free-workers, as its subscription list continues to grow exponentially. We hope that the small subscription fee will help offset the cost of sending this prisoner-published zine to fellow captives at no charge. We are also planning on offering at least one workshop for the public about Political Prisoners in Texas and how to support them in the upcoming months.

- Kansas Mutual Aid did not send a report

Lawrence (KS) Update January 2007

This past year was the biggest ever for the Lawrence ABC lit. distro. Even though we had to scale back our distribution (and now provide free literature to female prisoners everywhere and to male prisoners in Kansas, Missouri, Oregon and the Polunsky Unit in Texas only), we still sent out – at no charge – over 3,100 booklets, pamphlets, zines and resource guides in 2006!

LABC constantly struggles to raise money to pay the expenses of our lit distro. Our biggest expense is postage, but we also have to buy paper, envelopes and toner for our copier. We recently requested funds from the prisoner support community in Lawrence and across the country and have received many generous donations. Thanks to everyone who sent us funds! Unfortunately, we will continue to need money if we are to continue doing this work. We are looking for several people or groups to hold fundraisers for LABC throughout the year. We also hope that as many prisoners as possible (&/or their friends and family members who are not behind bars) will make donations to meet the expenses of the literature packets that they receive.

In February, LABC will once again table at the V-Day Festival, held prior to productions of the *Vagina Monologues* at the University of Kansas. Our participation in this event will allow us to share information about women in prison with members of the Lawrence community.

Contact info: Lawrence ABC / P.O. Box 1483
Lawrence KS 666044 / lawrenceabc@jps.net

Liberty Anarchist Black Cross

Liberty ABC has been engaged in a solidarity campaign after the racist, unjustified firing of Lorenzo Kombo Ervin by the Nashville Peace and Justice Center Board of Directors. Since Lorenzo's termination, Liberty ABC has been coordinating with sympathetic organizers in the Nashville area, to set up an anti-racist / anti-authoritarian coalition to counter the racist, bourgeois and authoritarian NPJC. Although there are certainly enough supporters to actively and successfully organize, this process is still in the initial planning stages.

In addition to this organizing, Liberty ABC continues to construct physical infrastructure on our commune of 120 acres. We now have a three story barn with a 50 foot observation tower and are in the process of building a four bedroom apartment into the second floor. We expect to be able to live in our newly built site at that time. We encourage all who are interested in visiting our land to contact us.

One member of our collective will be beginning law school next month, with a second member expecting to start in the fall.

Note to prisoners: Liberty ABC is not currently engaged in literature distribution.

Liberty ABC / P.O. Box 265 / Alexandria, TN 37012

libertyabc@nashvillepeacejustice.net

Liberty ABC encourages all those concerned with issues of social justice, worker's rights and anti-racism to please contact the Nashville Peace and Justice Center and express your outrage.

Nashville Peace and Justice Center / 1016 18th Ave S
Nashville, TN 37212 / ph: (615) – 321 – 9066

Fax: (615) – 320 – 8897 / email: info@nashvillepeacejustice.org

Minneapolis ABC Report

(Our cell has focused primarily on providing legal defense for local activists under investigation and providing prisoner support to mainly those who are suffering under the current "green scare." We held a very successful benefit in December with a panel of speakers including Leslie James Pickering (former ELF spokesperson), Will Potter (www.greenpeace.org/usa) and Jordan Kushner (local NLG lawyer).

Starting February 7th, our group will be hosting bi-monthly prisoner writing events and regular film screenings. Also, we are planning a "date night" for February 14th at a local co-op café, including a dinner and a band to "show prisoners some love." We also have plans with an infamous anarchist publisher that will be unfolded in the coming months. Keep on the look out!

(Oh, and we changed our PO Box after problems with the authorities with our last one.

MIN-ABC / P.O. Box 40338 / St. Paul, MN

Stay strong, stay free.